

GOD'S REVIVALIST

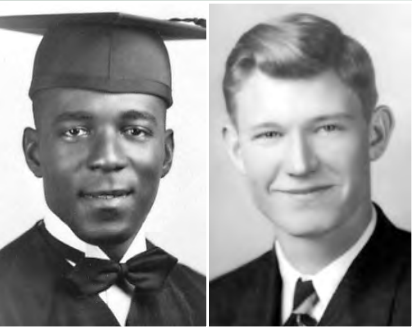
October 2014

and Bible Advocate



Dr. A. Wingrove Taylor

44 Years of Service, GBS Board of Trustees



about this issue

TWO GREAT MEN

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, therefore we have a number of articles included for that purpose, beginning with “The Work of the Ministry” (p.14) by Glenn Black, the former editor of *God’s Revivalist*.

However, I also would like to take the opportunity to talk about two great men, both ministers, and both intimately involved in Bible college education—Dr. A. Wingrove Taylor and Dr. Kenneth Stetler.

Dr. Taylor retired from the GBS Board of Trustees in May after giving exemplary service in this capacity from 1970 to 2014. President Avery begins this tribute (p.3) by stating that Taylor’s impact on the life of this institution cannot be overstated—not only by his active participation on the board, but also through the personal counsel he has given. His children then give us some insight into their life with their father. It is an interesting perspective. Dr. Taylor also shares with us what he considers to be the highlights of his 44 years as a trustee.

The other “great man” in this issue is Dr. Kenneth Stetler, who passed away on August 16. He was my professor, colleague, and chapel seat mate at GBS. He spent 43 of his 85 years on the Hilltop. His name is on the Centenary Monument as one of the school’s distinguished professors. His steadiness was appreciated by his colleagues and his students alike. He will be missed! In addition to his obituary on page 12, there is a tribute with pictures on pages 22 and 23 by Jack Hooker, the President of the National Alumni Association. 📌

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God’s Bible School and College seeks to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

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the president's page



His interaction with the board was always professional, his contributions profound, and his influence powerful. No man alive who has not actually been an employee of the school has had more impact on the life of this institution than Wingrove Taylor.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. A. WINGROVE TAYLOR

by Michael R. Avery, President

This past May, the Board of Trustees of God's Bible School and College gave a sad farewell to its longest serving member—Dr. A. Wingrove Taylor. Soon to be 91, Dr. Taylor felt that he did not have the physical strength necessary to continue his role as a trustee—a role that he filled with distinction for 44 years. His interaction with the board was always professional, his contributions profound, and his influence powerful. No man alive who has not actually been an employee of the school has had more impact on the life of this institution than Wingrove Taylor.

The Taylor connection to GBS began in 1905 with the arrival on campus of Irene Blyden (Dr. Taylor's mother). She was from the Caribbean Island of Saba. It was at GBS that she met another student from the Caribbean Island of St. Kitts, Richard Taylor, who came to GBS to prepare for the ministry. Some years later they married and gave a lifetime of service to the development and expansion of the Pilgrim Holiness Church on the Caribbean Island of Nevis.

Wingrove came to GBS in 1948. He enrolled in the Christian Workers Course, but eventually moved to the college, where he completed two diplomas in music, a ThB degree, and a BA degree, graduating with honors in 1952. He returned to the Caribbean where he gave 41 years of service as a pastor, district superintendent, college president, field superintendent, and finally as the general superintendent of the Wesleyan Holiness Church of the Caribbean. Dr. Taylor served as an annual camp evangelist for the GBS camp meetings for almost 40 years.

Dr. Taylor had a remarkable influence on thousands of GBS alumni and friends through his pulpit ministry and personal counsel. His influence on me personally was profound. Immediately after I became president-elect in December of 1994, he asked me to accompany him to the "old" men's prayer room. We sat down in a couple of chairs and he talked to me about the value of prayer in the life of a leader; he then prayed for me. In

the following 20 years, I have turned to him again and again for wisdom and advice.

Dr. Taylor was gifted in so many ways. He was a musician, singer, scholar, author, preacher, and administrator. He was peerless; he was fearless; he was orderly (he once told me that next to his Bible, *Roberts Rules of Order* was his most treasured book); he was saintly; he was professional; he was careful; he was logical; he was biblical; he was sensitive; he was sensible; he was authentic. However, the greatest gift he has given to me and to all who know him is not what he has done in ministry, but what he has become while *doing* ministry.

The people I have put on a pedestal and felt were worthy of emulation have been very few indeed, but Wingrove Taylor is one of them! ■

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Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, or emailed to revivalist@gbs.edu. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

Since I am unable to attend church anymore, I wouldn't want to miss any issue of the *Revivalist*. I enjoy the articles of all the writers. They are such an inspiration to my soul.

ERMA TYLER
Preston, MD

Thanks so much for all the hard work put into the *Revivalist*. We also wanted you to know that we felt the one on pornography [September 2013] was greatly needed and we have shared it with many people. It was the best one I ever read. I feel we need more issues like that. We used the "Jessica's Story" [p.7] at a Staying Pure Bible study we did this summer with our granddaughter, her friends, and their moms—about 18 people came to it. Keep up the good work.

DAVE AND DEB JOHNSTON
Mansfield, PA

Editor's Note: Copies of special editions of God's Revivalist, such as the September 2013 issue, are available for purchase. Call the Revivalist Office at 513-763-6650 or contact us by email at kfarmer@gbs.edu.

We recently attended a concert by your college choir in Thomasville, NC. We picked up a copy of the *Revivalist* (Oct. 2013) and read Dr. Phil Brown's article about responding to an invitation to a gay "marriage." I would like to thank you for your biblical response. Today, we have far too many people who call themselves "Christian" but are making adjustments in their rationalizations so they can accommodate things that are an abomination to God.

DAN AND NAOMI PRICE
email

I really appreciated President Avery's article ["Erasing the Lines"] in the Summer *Revivalist*. In light of all the shallowness passing for godliness, it was so refreshing. I never attended GBS, but I enjoy every time I get to hear the choir and get to attend camp meeting. My mother, Ida Elliott, attended, however. In fact, she was in the trio known as the Three Idas, as each was named Ida.

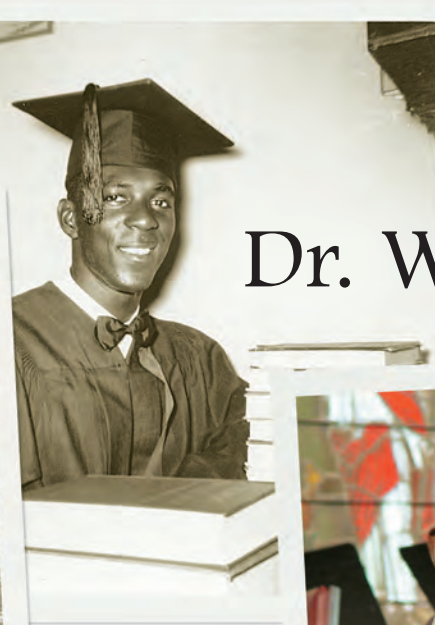
STELLA MCCOMAS
Sardinia, OH



Wingrove in his dorm room (right) and with his mother (below) during his 1952 graduation at GBS.

Our Dad:

Dr. Wingrove Taylor



MaryGrace Taylor Spalding •••

You might know him as Dr. Wingrove Taylor, but I know him as Dad, Daddy, or PaPa. I am the last of the four children. My name is MaryGrace Taylor Spalding.

My dad was born in 1923 in Nevis, British West Indies, to Richard Alfred and Irene (Blyden) Taylor, both GBS alumni and both ministers and pioneer missionaries of the then Pilgrim Holiness Church. He was the third of four children. He wanted nothing to do with God or church when he was growing up. I guess you

could have called him rebellious. However, he came to God after many prayers, especially those of his mother (my grandmother), and, in 1948, Dad also made the trek to Cincinnati in order to train for the ministry.

GBS made a huge impact on his life beyond just an education. Yes, he did receive a BA, ThB, and two diplomas—all in 1952. But, more importantly, it was at GBS that he was entirely sanctified.

After graduation, he went back to St. Kitts where Doreen Harper had been waiting for him. They married (1953) and set out for Trinidad, where we four children were born while he was pastoring in Belmont. My dad then became District Superintendent of Trinidad and Tobago for the Pilgrim Holiness Church (1962-64).

When I was three, we moved from Trinidad to Barbados, where Dad became president of the Caribbean Pilgrim College (1964-1974; renamed the Caribbean Wesleyan College after the merger of the Pilgrim Holiness Church and the Wesleyan Methodist Church). During this period he also pastored the Kew Wesleyan Church. He traveled a lot, ministering in 43 different countries. It was his recognized leadership qualities that catapulted him into various positions of prominence in the Wesleyan Church and other religious schools and organizations.

My dad was a strict disciplinarian and very conservative. Although they loved him dearly, my older brother and sister did not take kindly to these traits. He was gone a lot as I grew up, but I still knew him as the “fire

Dr. A. Wingrove Taylor / DEGREES & AWARDS

- 1952 Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Theology
two music diplomas/certificates
God's Bible School and College, OH
- 1972 Doctor of Divinity
Houghton College, NY
- 1981 Master of Arts in Ministerial Education
Indiana Wesleyan University, IN
Thesis: Liberation Theology, A Systemic Approach
- 1982 Holiness Exponent of the Year
Christian Holiness Association
- 1986 Doctor of Divinity
Southern Wesleyan University, SC
- 1986 Distinguished Alumnus Award
God's Bible School & College, OH
- 1996 Doctor of Divinity
Caribbean Graduate School of Theology, Jamaica
- 2000 Doctor of Divinity
God's Bible School & College, OH
- 2002 Lifetime Achievement Award
Wesleyan Theological Society

and brimstone preacher." After hearing him preach, you just had to go to the altar! By the time he got to the "younger two" children—my sister Phoebe and myself—he had "mellowed" somewhat. Age has a way of doing that to people.

Every morning we would hear him call, "Brainerd, Paula, Phoebe, Grace. Come to family worship." We had devotions and would all sing a song—always a pleasant song—with him playing the piano. That memory has meant a lot to me over the years, as well as the time spent in God's presence and with His Word. The scripture imbedded in us during these times as children remains within us as adults. We had family night every Friday night and played games. It could get a little loud and rowdy at times. We had a ton of fun!

In 1974, he was elected general superintendent of The Wesleyan Holiness Church (Caribbean Provisional General Conference of The Wesleyan Church), a position he held until 1994. In addition to his denominational responsibilities, he kept up a very busy itinerary, speaking in many venues in many countries. Thousands of people have been touched by his ministry.

Dad is an amazing person with high moral values, integrity, and religious beliefs. God had His hand on him over the years, and still does. I am very fortunate to still have him alive and in my life. I talk to him every day. He has been an inspiration to me and a real blessing. No matter where I've been in life, I have received his counsel, his love, and always a word of prayer. He is one of the greatest prayer warriors I know. When he prays, you can sense that he is touching heaven.

My Dad will be 91 on his next birthday. He now lives with my sister Phoebe in Indianapolis, Indiana, and I see him as much as I can. In the last several years, he has had many illnesses, but by God's grace he has made recoveries. God has truly touched his life over and over again. Totally bent over with arthritis, he can no longer travel on his own, so I am now his travel companion when he does travel. Being with my Dad and being able to help him makes me happy.

It used to bother me to be known as Dr. Taylor's daughter. Now I am totally proud to be known as that. He has helped me through many difficult times. He is always there for me. My life has been changed because I AM his daughter. I am proud to call him PaPa. ■

MaryGrace Taylor Spalding, the youngest of the Taylor siblings, was president of the 1984 GBS high school senior class. She is an art teacher at Winton Woods Elementary School in Cincinnati, OH.

Touting Taylor: Tributes to a Trustee

Thank you for your years of serving on the Board of Trustees of God's Bible School and College. You have set a high standard of personal integrity, unquestioned loyalty, and sterling dignity for those who currently serve on the board, and those who will serve in the future. Your incisive perceptions have guided us, while your penchant for correct parliamentary procedure has kept us focused. I consider it a high honor to have served with you for 36 years.

I also express gratitude to your precious companion who has so graciously supported your extensive efforts to strengthen both the board and the school. May God's very best blessings continue with you.

Leonard Sankey

Dr. Taylor joined the GBS board the same year I joined the planet. Funny how 44 years seems like a long board tenure and a not-so-long life!

Some of my earliest memories of GBS are hearing the amazingly articulate "Favorite Son" of GBS preaching in camp meeting. And I'll never forget when the course-correction occurred in his preaching as he discovered that his connection with God was not based on Rules, Ritual, or Religion, but rather on a Real Relationship! What wonderful truths he gleaned from his studies that were shared with such insight and passion. We are forever indebted to you, Dr. Taylor.

The incredible privilege of serving on the GBS board with him during the past 14 years has been delightful. His wisdom, zeal for accuracy and appropriateness, passion to follow *Robert's Rules of Order*, and winsome smile to back it all up are a package that will never be replaced!

A quick word must also be said about the woman who has been such an integral part of Dr. Taylor's life. The soft-spoken, kind lady that has played a key role on "Team Taylor" is rather remarkable, indeed. Children are good at judging character, and our son Simeon gives a gold medal to his friend, Mrs. Taylor! Even at a very young age, when he was very hesitant to reach out to anyone, he had no trouble whatsoever opening his hands and heart to the lovely wife of Dr. Taylor!

Words are simply inadequate to express the gratitude I feel for his contribution to GBS and to me personally! I consider myself to be abundantly blessed to be able to call him my friend. Blessings on you and, from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU, Dr. Taylor!

Robbie England



Brainerd Blyden-Taylor • • •

Reflection on

FORTY-FOUR YEARS of SERVICE

on the GBS Board of Trustees

As part from my extended family and my church denomination, God's Bible School and College has exerted the greatest influence on my life. Forty-four years of service on its highest board is part of that influence. Purposely, it is to me wise to have these recollections to include particulars rather than persons. Let me share some of those highlights with you.

- There was the delivering of the school from its big and blasting indebtedness. A special camp meeting service was dedicated to this great celebration.
- There was and is the electing, appointing, or employing of specially qualified persons to serve the various departments of the school.
- There has been the purposeful and persistent promoting of godliness.
- There was the pursuing and achieving of the highest levels of accreditation.
- There was the instituting of the first sizeable capital campaign.
- There has been the acquiring of surrounding property and the erecting of new buildings.
- There was the inaugurating of board retreats and strategic planning.
- There is the improving of security and the introducing of technology.

May the school never lower its banner of holiness, never leave its pathways of progress, and never lose its passion for perfection. ■

—A. Wingrove Taylor
August 19, 2014

The Rev. Dr. Alaric Wingrove Taylor is and has been many things to many people:

- A Son and a Servant
- A Sinner and a Seeker after God
- A Brother and a Beloved
- A Husband and a Hero
- A Dad and a Disciplinarian
- A Preacher and a Pastor
- An Educator and an Exemplar
- A Mentor and a Maestro
- A Leader and a Legislator
- A Church Statesman and a Constant Supporter
- And most of all to me he has become
- A Father and a Friend ■

—Brainerd Blyden-Taylor

Dr. Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, the first of the Taylor siblings, is the music director at the Church of St. Timothy, North Toronto, Ontario, and is the founder and artistic director of the Nathaniel Dett Chorale.

Paula Taylor • • •

Each of us is our father's "favorite child," and this by his own continual admissions. I am the second-born child, as well as the first-born girl. I consider that to be the enviable spot.

I learned that I, as a baby, was the only one whose natal care Daddy actually physically participated in. That's huge! I also learned that in that time he knighted me "ma petite Paula." Indeed, to date, I am the genuine "runt" in the family.

He is so special to me that he has many names: Popsicle, Popular, Winks, and Doubles (W).

As I see it, we each have claimed that special connection with Dad that is each of ours alone. That

makes us each his “favorite” at that moment of expression, all the while understanding the truth in the wisdom of knowing that he has no favorites. We each are highly favored in being ourselves.

Through my life, listening to him has been like receiving testimony of “hidden manna” or of having a “white stone” with just your special secret name written on it.

It was the testimony of Daddy’s life that pointed me to God and helped me personally relate to God. Now daddy and daughter speak to our God the Father one-on-one. We have both chosen to boldly identify with ABBA, and not the “father of lies.” This makes Wingrove Taylor no longer just my father, for I regard him as my brother in Christ Jesus.

Therefore, for this introduction and for his living example, I am forever grateful to God for allowing A. Wingrove Taylor to be my dad. ■

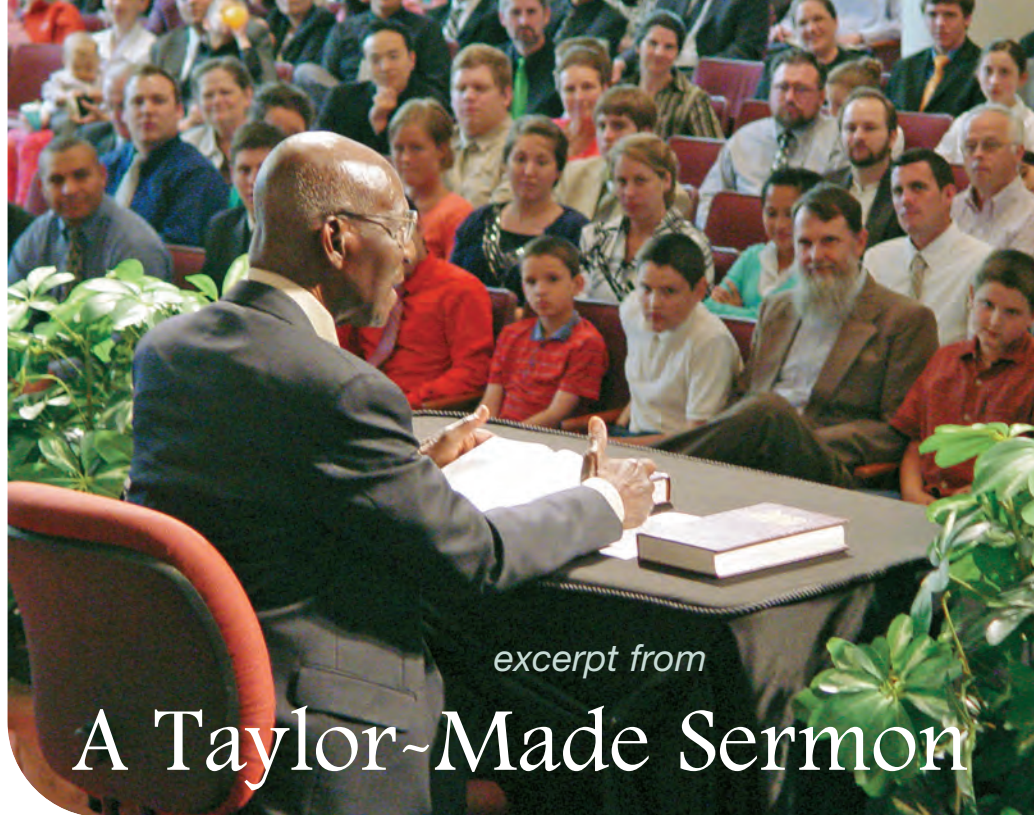
Paula Taylor, the second-born of the Taylor siblings, was a librarian at the Barbados Public Library until her retirement.

Phoebe Taylor ●●●●

My dad has always been the wind beneath my wings. When I was 17 years old, he had a vision to send me to God’s Bible School. I spent two years there getting grounded before moving on to Indiana Wesleyan University to finish a four-year degree in nursing. However, during my junior year I began to despair and wanted to quit due to the difficulty of the classes. My dad would have none of it. He signed over the Caribbean work to his assistant general superintendent and came up to lend support. He helped me study every night, sharing the load of being a roommate and a father. He not only helped me through my senior year, he also completed a masters degree in nine months—and with distinction!

I could not have done it without him. I will be forever grateful! ■

Phoebe Taylor, the third-born of the Taylor siblings, is a shift charge nurse at the St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis, IN.



excerpt from

A Taylor-Made Sermon

It was always a joy to hear Dr. Taylor speak. Of course, I so enjoyed the depth of the truth, but there was much more than that. I was impressed with the dignity with which he carried himself. As he approached the pulpit, I knew the feast was on. What was it that so impressed me?

I liked his alliteration. Everything had to fit. In fact, in the sermon which I excerpt below, he admitted that he was using the word “sanctity” because he had used the words “nobility,” “identity,” and “activity.” He admitted, “I need an ‘-ity.’ It is as simple as that.”

I also liked his gentle bantering with the congregation. Whether it was “Come, come, my friends,” or “Is everyone all right?” he was engaging us in real time.

He had just the right amount of self-disclosure to drive home his point. He had been there, done that, and God had helped him to see his error.

This excerpt is from a series of sermons Dr. Taylor gave at the 2004 Alabama Bible Methodist Camp in Pell City, Alabama. The sermon was “Kingdom Righteousness is Radical Sanctity.” I must admit there were a number of selections that could have been made from this—all good. I settled on this one. It has all the characteristics I appreciate in a Wingrove Taylor sermon. —KF

I have been telling people that I began my Christian experience with BIRTHING, and it was a wonderful experience, mine was. And then I came to Bible school and heard about being filled with the Spirit. And so one night I prayed through. God came in all His power and glory. I call that BLESSING. I went back to the Caribbean and suddenly discovered I needed BURYING. I had some little ways with my wife that were not very lovely. (And all of you husbands can just pray for me because you have always been perfect with yours.)



I mean, she would do things... you know. In fact, she had a habit of lateness, I thought. She doesn't think so. I still think so. And I would get so upset that I'm on my way to church—on my way to preach!—and we have about 11 miles to drive and I have not a word to say to her! Not because I have nothing to say, but because I am too angry to say it. You see, I am one of *those* guys—you know, when I *used* to get angry—I don't blow any top. No, I don't *blow* the top... but I *seal* the lid. Same anger.

Big baby, going about your house with your lips all buttoned up and you can't speak to your wife because you're too angry to speak to her (...I hope you are all right, you know). And God showed me this, and showed me I needed burying. So, I had birthing, I had blessing, and I had burying.

I am going on with God. I am now president of the college. We are having spiritual emphasis week. The preacher is preaching, and I feel a little uncomfortable. I don't feel spiritually together. I say, "Lord, what is this? This is not normal, is it?" And God says, "Your problem is that you build your life around crisis. And you are making a circle around the crisis experience. You need to cut out and grow. You need to learn *continuation*." So God showed me BECOMING.

Would you believe? Only 1992, and my church seemed to be falling apart. And people were turning away from what I call those "sensitivity standards." And I was all for "Keep the standards. Don't deviate!" In fact, in one conference I said, "You want to allow THIS now, but what about in the next 10 years when all our people do THIS?" (And I won't say what the "THIS" is.) And, you know that whole conference burst out laughing and said that I had talked about impossibilities. (It has come to pass. Yes, it has come to pass!)

So, I was so disturbed, I was so distraught. And suddenly God said "Look, Wingrove. What is Christianity all about?" And He said, "Why don't we just begin in kindergarten?" And He said, "Is Christianity about religion?" And I had to say "No." The Jews were the most religious people I know, but I wouldn't take them as an example when Jesus was around. "Is it about ritual?" Again, I had to say "No." Because these were the people who could get Jesus killed on Friday and go comfortably to Passover on Saturday. And then God said, "Is it righteousness?" And that is where he struck me out. Because that was the passion of my life. I wanted to be right. I wanted my family to be right. I wanted my church to be right...until I drove people up a wall. God says, "No. The bottom line of Christianity is not religion, and it is not ritual, and it is not righteousness. The bottom line of Christianity is *relationship*. It is loving a living, loving God." And my eyes opened, and God taught me BELONGING. ■

Touting Taylor: Tributes to a Trustee

Over 40 years ago as a student at GBS, I listened to Dr. Wingrove Taylor preach the Word of God. His stately mannerisms, his precise outlines, and his deep spiritual insights made a lasting impression on this young student. Over the years I have repeated that experience many times. I have been convicted and inspired by his faithfulness to scripture and his passionate love of God. I have also had the privilege to observe firsthand his wisdom and grace as he helped chart the course of his alma mater. More personally, I have had the honor of preaching with him. What a wonderful time of fellowship! Thank God for the powerful influence this humble, spiritual giant has been on my life and on the life and future of God's Bible School and College.

Jack Hooker

Dr. Taylor is a wise, diplomatic, godly, kind leader. GBS will forever be indebted to this great man.

Monte Stetler

All of that alliteration in Dr. Wingrove Taylor's sermons still sticks. Simple statements about being and becoming a Christian made in GBS '80s camp meeting services pop up time and again with fresh relevance. As a board member, Dr. Taylor's precision in parliamentary procedure mirrors his excellence in exposition. Quite simply, he is an inspiration.

Rebecca Kelley

My friend, my brother: As a product of God's Bible School and Missionary Training Home and his steady walk with God, A. Wingrove Taylor brought with him qualities which the school ideally symbolizes: Christian morality, humility, stability, erudition, optimism, and the power of communication. For me, he became a trusted confidant, a camp meeting speaker, and a highly valued member of the Board of Trustees.

Ambassador of Christ par excellence, Wingrove came back to the campus early in my administration and never wavered in his support of the school's reawakening. I was dealing with a neighborhood in a state of social flux where racial pressures seemed insurmountable. But, on a level our neighbors understood, he helped provide a counterbalance to incorrectly perceived racial bias.

My wife Carolyn and I love him dearly and pray God's richest blessings on him and his faithful wife Doreen.

Samuel E. Deets
GBS President (1965-1975)

NEWS

from the Hilltop

OPENING OF SCHOOL

After the long, quiet summer, campus burst to life with the arrival of new students. Members of the GBS greeting team met the new students and their parents, assisting them in getting belongings transported to their rooms in the dormitories. New Student Orientation gave incoming freshmen an introduction to campus life. During the three-day event, there were sessions on godly living, dating, managing money, and various student policies, all interspersed with fun activities.



A highlight of the week was a trip on Saturday to the local Creation Museum, where interesting displays and activities positively reinforce belief in God as the Creator.

During the morning service of Convocation Sunday, Faith Avery, Director of Institutional Advancement, presented scholarships (see p.13). The recurring endowed scholarships and a single, one-time scholarship totaled \$79,540. Divisional scholarships and Wingrove Taylor Legacy Awards were also distributed.

President Avery spoke on the topic "When Life Gets Difficult" (John 14:1-27), noting that twice in

this passage we are admonished not to let our hearts be troubled. He eloquently connected this to three gifts God gives us for maintaining an attitude of trust during times of trouble.

Dr. Dan Glick spoke in the evening service on spending time with God. He emphasized these aspects of prayer: praising, asking, interceding, and listening.

Pray that GBS will have a great school year as we train 302 college students—201 at the Cincinnati campus and 101 in the online Aldersgate Distance Education Program. This represents a full-time equivalency (FTE) of 245.21.

FIRE IN THE DORM

There was a lot of excitement for the campus residents on Tuesday, September 2. A fire drill scheduled for that evening was successfully conducted while the Cincinnati Fire Department was present and observing. The staff and students were commended for their excellent performance during the drill. Upon returning to the Men's Residence Hall,

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist Family," and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.

BIRTHS

To **Elisabeth (Schafer) (BA '02) and Vincent (AA '02, BA '09) Tyler**, a son, **Sean Antony**, born May 22 in Cuba, NM. Elisabeth is librarian at the Cuba Public School, and she and Vince are in active outreach to Navajo teenagers in their area. Sean joins brother Cedric (3).



To **Gwendylan Casey (Jones) (AAS '13) and Hilbert Charles (BA '14) McPhee**, a son, **Elijah Terrance Chebar**, born July 30 in Cincinnati, OH. Both McPhees are vocational childcare workers.

MARRIAGES



Katie Newman (BA '13) to Josh Ranke, July 4, 2014, at the Christian Nation Church in Pleasant Plain, OH, with Josh Peck officiating. Josh is a corrections officer in the sheriff's department. Katie is a client representative (case manager) at Southern Hills Counseling Center.

DEATHS



Phillip Patrick "Pat" Courtney, 82, of Tulsa, OK, went to his eternal reward on May 6, 2014. Pat was born in Bartlesville, OK. He earned degrees from



however, smoke was found emanating from the first floor.

The fire fighters, still on campus, discovered that an exhaust fan had caught on fire in the first floor bathroom. While the flames were not extensive, the fire department, following standard procedure, called for backup (a total of 7 trucks were present), and began pumping water into the ceiling.

The fire was contained in a few minutes. The water, however, caused some flooding in the hallway and in the chapel below. Damage was minimal due to the immediate response by the already present fire crew.

Follow-up inspections determined that the fire walls in the

building contained the smoke extremely well, and there was limited burning due to the concrete and steel construction.

Our insurance company, Guide One, and our agent, Luke Gibson, were on top of things and had Servpro, a restoration company, on the scene within an hour to start the cleanup process. We are grateful for God's guiding hand throughout the event, and for His protection of our students and staff.

FALL REVIVAL

God worked in the lives of new and returning students alike during GBS's fall revival, a series of services which lasted from Monday night, August 25, through Friday morning, August 29. The special speaker was John Manley, pastor of Wesleyan Evangelistic Church in Dayton, OH. He challenged students to move from serving God only out of fear to serving God because of an intimate, personal relationship with Him. In order to build that intimate relationship

with God, Pastor Manley emphasized the necessity of aligning our hearts with God's Word, and keeping ourselves from idols. The student body and staff alike rejoiced with testimonies and praise at the work God has already done through this revival.

—Karen Olson, VP of Student Council

NEW STAFF AND FACULTY



Janet Burton, from Taylorsville, IN, assumed the responsibilities of Administrative Coordinator of the Aldersgate Distance

Education Program this summer. She replaced Katie Newman who left GBS to prepare for her wedding (see p.10). Janet has worked as a nurse and nurse educator for many years.



Mark Cravens is returning as an Associate Professor in the Ministerial Education Division—

a position he held from 2005 to 2011. We are excited about Mark's return to our campus. ➡

Bethany Nazarene University and McNeese University. In addition to pastoring for 50 years, he founded the Berean Bible Camp in Buffalo, TX, and served as its president for 17 years. Pat is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Della Jo; two daughters, Patti Jo and Sherri Ann; son, Phillip Daniel; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Mike and Jack. The funeral service was held at the Wesleyan Bible Church, Rev. Mike Yancey and Rev. Richard Gremillion officiating.



Tonya Lynn (Hensler) Redcay, 53, of Carlisle, PA, died August 4, 2014, at M.S. Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, PA. She was born in 1961 in Marietta, OH, a daughter of Wilma Brown Hensler and the late Paul Hensler Jr. She graduated from

Shenandoah High School in Sarahsville, OH, and earned a BA from GBS in 1990. She was employed as an elementary school teacher for fifteen years in the Cayman Islands and was later a head teacher for Childtime at Moreland Elementary School. Tonya was in charge of the Good News Club for youth in both the Cayman Islands and at Green Spring Brethren in Christ Church. She will be remembered as a loving wife, stepmother, sister, daughter, and stepgrandmother. Tonya is survived by her husband, Jay A. Redcay; four stepchildren, Luke, April, Daniel, and Tawnyia; six stepgrandchildren; mother, Wilma Hensler; four sisters, Shirley, Debra, Deidere, and Linda; two brothers, Donald and Kenneth; as well as several nieces and nephews and her cats Hannah and Gally. The funeral service was held at the Green Spring Brethren in Christ Church in Newville, PA, Rev. Terry Burton ➡



Nathan Dahler is the new Director of Student Enrollment, coordinating the efforts of recruitment, admissions, and financial aid. Nathan (AA '07) married Elizabeth Charlton (BA '07) in 2008, graduated from mortuary school, and became a funeral director in Alexandria, KY. The Dahlers have two daughters, Ava and Reese. Elizabeth is a registered nurse at The Christ Hospital.



Amit Dutta (AAS '14) is the new Student Ministries Coordinator. He will be working with various churches and organizations to provide GBS students with opportunities for experience in "the field of service."

Clint "Rowdy" Minton, (BS in Construction Management, Boise



married **Tiffany Anderson**, also a GBS student and recent part-time worker in the Facilities Department.



Sharree Pouzar, who has worked in various capacities as a GBS student, now moves to full-time status as Admissions / Financial Aid Coordinator, a position formerly held by Heather Couch. Sharree will continue tak-

ing classes with the goal of graduating with a BA in 2015.

State University), has joined the maintenance team. He also is a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve and currently serves in the 478th Engineer Battalion in Ft. Thomas, KY. Additionally, he is a part-time GBS student. Clint recently



Andrea Ratcliff (BA '13), is temporarily covering the music responsibilities that Kristin (England) Foster had in the Aldersgate Christian Academy for eight years. This will continue through the first semester, after which a permanent replacement (to be announced) will join the GBS music team.



In an internal, temporary change, **Richard Miles** has added the job of Campus Administrator to his duties. While he is doing this, Dean of Men **Ryan Watters** will be assuming some of the Student Affairs responsibilities. ■

REVIVALIST FAMILY continued

➡ officiating, with interment at Cumberland Valley Memorial Gardens, Carlisle, PA.

Kenneth P. Stetler, 85, of Rising Sun, IN, was ushered by angels from his earthly home into the presence of Jesus on August 16, 2014. He was born April 27, 1929, in Attica, IN, son of the late Dewey Ellsworth and Ethel Ona (Ross) Stetler. He grew up working as a farmhand with an early goal of owning a farm and raising crops and animals. But God called him and led him to GBS in 1949 to study for the ministry. It was there he met Jewel Lamb who was finishing high school ('49). They were married the following year.



Kenneth graduated from GBS with the dual degrees of ThB ('55) and BA ('58). Following his graduation, he was hired by the college as an instructor, a position that he retained most of his adult life. He also served the college as dean of men. Concurrent with his teaching years, he pastored several churches in the Cincinnati area and established the East End Chapel and later the United Holiness Church.

In 1975, he moved to Salem, OH, and served for three years as academic dean of Allegheny Wesleyan College. He then returned to GBS where he taught until his 1995 retirement. Kenneth had a Master of Education degree from the University of Cincinnati and an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from GBS.

His retirement years were spent in Rising Sun, IN, where he returned to his roots by having a large garden. He enjoyed his family and had a unique ability to make every child, grandchild, and great-grandchild feel special. His sphere of influence also included many of his neighbors and friends.

Rev. Stetler is survived by his faithful companion Jewel (Lamb) Stetler; six children, Daniel, David, Darrell, Frances, Stephen, and Trilinda; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Marjorie, Pat, and Emma; a brother, Monte; as well as several nieces and nephews. Services were held at the Burlington Baptist Church, Burlington, KY, officiated by his four sons, with interment at Cedar Hedge Cemetery in Rising Sun, IN. ■

(See p.22 for Alumni News tribute)

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL & COLLEGE | 2014-15 ACADEMIC YEAR



Endowed scholarships are investments that are held in perpetuity, with the money earned from these investments used to provide scholarships to deserving students each year. Our goal is to help ensure that a God's Bible School and College education remains affordable for students and families. We are grateful to the generous donors who have partnered with GBSC to establish the endowed scholarships listed below.

Ada Mae Conrad Memorial Scholarship

– Rachel Pohl, Kayla Vandervort

Allan Clarence Strong Scholarship

– Carissa Linville, Cassandra Linville, Karen Olson

C. Helen Mooshian Scholarship

– Kayla Vandervort

Carl Victor & Bessie Hedstrom and Alvin &

Gertrude Hedstrom Memorial Scholarship

– Chad DeWitt

Carson W. Scarbrough Memorial Scholarship

– Brittany Potteiger

Che Brown Scholarship

– Erica Biggers

Chester C. Elliott and Leliah E. Roberts Scholarship

– Jason Albertson

Connie A. Tiede Memorial Scholarship

– Emily Pearce

Crawford Family Scholarship

– Elizabeth Albertson, Angie Carpenter,

Courtney Fourman, Brittany Potteiger

David and Clare Martin Scholarship

– Cheyenne Conrad

Dr. Edward Palm Scholarship

– Dwight Crosley

Dr. J. Louis Emmert Scholarship

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Dr. J.D. Young Memorial Scholarship

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Dr. R.G. Flexon Memorial Scholarship

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Elmer C. Farmer Pastoral Scholarship

– Rene Sandoval

Elwert / Rauhut Memorial Scholarship

– Erica Biggers

Ervin and Jane Bohall Scholarship

– Luke Boldon

Ethel Belle Baughey Scholarship

– Matthew Metz

Evelyn Ware Scholarship

– Ashley Quesenberry

Frank Little, Jr. Ministerial Scholarship

– Chad Bladen

General GBS Scholarship

– Brittany Potteiger

Gertrude Taylor Memorial Scholarship

– Melissa Crosley

Grossman, Reiss, and Woods Memorial Scholarship

– Brittany Potteiger

H. E. Schmul, Sr. Scholarship

– Jason Albertson

Hazel (Trouten) Scheid Memorial Scholarship

– Kevin Spangler

Isaac T. Monce Memorial Scholarship

– Andrew Hosier

Jim and Dorothy Miller Memorial Scholarship

– Breanna Potteiger

John Case, Jr. Scholarship

– Hollie Kessen

John O. (Mickey) and Annie E. McGuire Memorial Scholarship

– Elisabeth Hunt

Joyce Ann Marshall Memorial Scholarship

– Valeria Medina

Kenwood Bible Missions Scholarship

– Andrew Eads

King Family Scholarship

– Karen Olson

Leonard and Janet Sankey Scholarship

– Dwight Crosley, Peter Linko, Kevin Spangler

Louise Rhyne Memorial Scholarship

– Whitney Collins, Kevin Tomes,

Jordan Waggoner

Marjorie Wolfe Bryner Memorial Scholarship

– Natasha Hausman, Jordan Potter

Marvin Jewell Ministerial Scholarship

– Jeffrey Paulus

Mary Ann Bell Scholarship

– Mari Hamada

McNeill Memorial Scholarship

– Mari Hamada

Meredith and Florence Vance Scholarship

– Josh Beck, Laurie Beck, Erin Smith,

Kevin Tomes

Merle and Anna Wolf Scholarship

– Crystal Kessen

Messerschmidt Memorial Scholarship

– Melissa Crosley

Minnie Ruth Wallbrown Memorial Scholarship

– Eleni Geletu, Julie Going, Breanna Potteiger,

Kerri Pouzar, Caslyn Rice

Mr. and Mrs. K.W. Wong Scholarship

– Sarah Bond, David Olson

Myrtle Jessup Ministerial Scholarship

– Jeffrey Paulus

N. Keith & Sharon Waggoner Scholarship

– Crystal Kessen

Nathaniel Joslin Memorial Scholarship

– Mari Hamada

Norma J. Sturgeon Memorial Scholarship

– Jason Albertson, Andrew Eads, Hannah Frausto,

Stephen St. Germain, Tiffany Minton, David Walker

Oral E. and Lucille Cox Memorial Scholarship

– Emily Huff

Oscar Johnson Memorial Scholarship

– Jordan Potter

Paul E. Drummond Scholarship

– Richard Cole, Emily Huff

Peter J. and Patricia Moran Scholarship

– Laurie Beck, Breanna Potteiger

Rev. and Mrs. William Jackson Scholarship

– Audrey Stevenson

Rev. Francis A. Taylor Scholarship

– Bethany Probst

Robertson Scholarship

– Josh Beck

Ronald M. Sherrill Memorial Scholarship

– Kevin Tomes

Sherrard Family Scholarship

– Nicole Brown, Grace Ji, Drew Roberson

South Bend Union Chapel Scholarship

– Joey Ellis

Sproles Family Funeral Home Scholarship

– Joshua Glick, Julie Seniva

Stanley and Evelyn Kendall Christian School Scholarship

– Priscilla Vernon

The Aubrey Elam Indoor Camp Scholarship

– Jordan Potter

Vaughn Somers Memorial Scholarship

– Tim Lanigan

Vernon Scholarship

– Matthew Metz

W.I. and Lillie DeBoard Memorial Scholarship

– Zacharias Freeman

Ward Family Legacy Memorial Scholarship

– Tasheana Barnett

Interested in starting a scholarship? Call Faith Avery in the Advancement Office today.

Advancement Office | www.gbs.edu/giving | (513) 721-7944

The Work of the Ministry

by Glenn D. Black

"...He gave some...evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." —Ephesians 4:11-12

September 11, 1968, will forever be etched in my mind as a life-changing day. As a senior in high school at God's Bible School, I was alone in my dorm room on a very pleasant late summer Wednesday evening. My open Bible was before me.

As I began to read verse two of 1 Peter chapter five, the words "feed the flock of God" leaped off the page of my Bible and captured the imagination of my mind, heart, and soul. I heard a recognizable heavenly Voice convincingly say "That is what I want you to do...feed the flock of God." This was my personal calling to share the "unsearchable riches of Christ" as a preacher and pastor. This was my summons to do the work of the ministry of Christ through His church in His world.

I was seventeen years old when God called me into full-time ministry for Him. Now, forty-six years later, I look back with thanksgiving for the trials and triumphs of serving in the ministry for forty-two years—as a pastor for eleven years, editor of *God's Revivalist* for nine years, and a district superintendent in my denomination for twenty-two years.

In the providence of God, I was born into a Christian home. My father was a holiness preacher and a wonderful pastor. He loved God and he loved people. He taught me to love God and to love people. As a preacher, he taught me to "feed the flock of God." As a pastor, he taught me to care for the weak, the sick, and those who were going astray. He taught me to counsel the young, care for the older saints, and comfort the bereaved. I thank God for my father's influence in doing the work of the ministry of Christ.

AFFIRMING THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

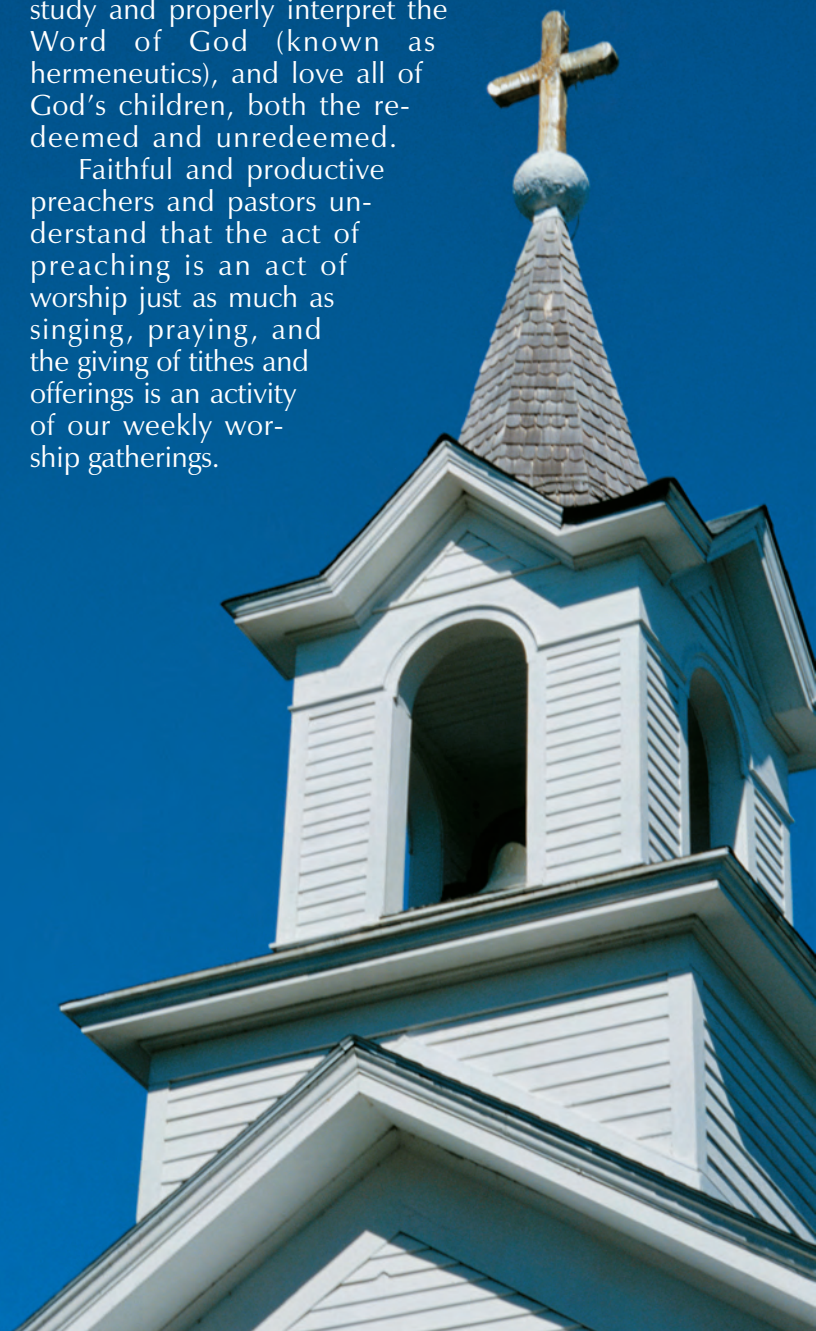
In Ephesians 4, the Apostle Paul discusses various gifts that are bestowed on, or given to, the universal church. He writes that Christ "...gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:11-12).

The apostles were called to guide the young Ephesian church in the ways it should go. Prophets were gifted, or called, to oversee the church relative to what it ought to know. God-called evangelists were gifted to deal with sinners.

The titles "pastors and teachers" were coupled together by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:11-12 because they are specifically gifted to minister to the saints of God. They tend to the spiritual needs of the people of God and they teach, or instruct, the flock of God.

The primary duty of a pastor is to preach and teach the eternal Word of the living God. Fulfilling this responsibility requires one to live in the presence of God, devotionally study and properly interpret the Word of God (known as hermeneutics), and love all of God's children, both the redeemed and unredeemed.

Faithful and productive preachers and pastors understand that the act of preaching is an act of worship just as much as singing, praying, and the giving of tithes and offerings is an activity of our weekly worship gatherings.



Reflecting on more than four decades of ministry, I firmly believe that ministry for God is a *calling* by God, a *covenant* with God, a *consecration* to God, and a *continuation* of the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ.

APPRECIATING WORKERS IN THE MINISTRY

In recent years, it has been a popular practice in America to tell our military personnel that we appreciate their service to our country. I hear this type of comment frequently. I have often wished that we had the same custom in the church world.

The month of October is annually designated as “Pastor Appreciation Month.” When I served as a district leader in my denomination, I applauded this practice and encouraged churches to creatively honor their pastor and family. I ask, why only once a year?

Men and women who are called of God to preach and pastor are brave soldiers of the Cross. They lay down their lives for Christ. They often sacrifice monetary gain in this present world. They often live a distance from family and friends. They serve the kingdom of God.

To all of God’s servants who have been chosen by Christ to be an “evangelist or pastor or teacher” in His church and this world, **thank you for your service.**

Thank you for responding to the call of God. Thank you for educationally preparing for the ministry. Thank you for not preaching above our heads; but thank you for preaching where our heads (minds) ought to be. Thank you for faithfully sharing the Word of God, without fear of, or favor to, people. Thank you for loving the unlovely. Thank you for forgiving gossipers. Thank you for smiling even when you were depressed in your own heart. Thank you for all you do, the noticeable and the unseen. Thank you for praying for us. Thank you for being a true servant of God.

Thank you for your service! Servants of God and the church, remember that “...when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away” (I Peter 5:4). ■

Glenn D. Black (HS '60, BRE '74) is a long-term pastor and retired district superintendent of The Wesleyan Church (Kentucky district). He was editor of *God's Revivalist* (1976-85) and now resides with his wife Sharon (Jackman) (BA '70) in Westport, IN.

7 Seven Ways to Support Your Preaching Pastor

by David Speas

Be examples. Nothing makes a preacher more credible than changed lives. Period. They are the proof that the words he shares each week carry power and truth. If you want to know the best way to support your preaching pastor, here it is—be an example of the truths about which he preaches.

Be there. I know this may sound a bit obvious, but another way to support your preaching pastor is through consistent attendance. Some weeks I feel as though I blew it. But seeing people filter back into church the next week demonstrates that I am making a difference and helps give me the desire to share God’s truth again. Your consistent attendance will say more to your pastor than your words ever could.

Be interested. When a pastor senses that his people are interested in the message, it helps him to preach with more confidence. Confidence frees him to be himself. Eye contact, posture, mannerisms, and quietness all convey interest. Show interest and, chances are, it will help him to be more interesting.

Be pleasant. Ever walk into a church that was unpleasant? Most of us have, and our experience could be summed up in one word—“awkward.” Preaching to a congregation that doesn’t look pleasant is similar. It makes you want to hurry through the sermon. It makes you uncomfortable. It quenches the Spirit. Don’t let your sour emotions or to-do lists keep you from looking pleasant. Smile. Listen intently. Refuse to scowl. Who knows? Maybe by the end of the service you won’t have any reason to scowl!

Be energetic. Preachers feed off energetic crowds. Yes, we derive our strength from the Lord, but we also have to stare into people’s faces for an hour. When those people are excited, it fills a preacher’s reservoir and helps him enjoy preaching. (P.S. This is especially true of churches that have more than one service.)

Be thoughtful. Remind your pastor of past sermons that have helped you spiritually. Explain how God used a truth he shared that day to teach you something new or address an area you will be working on in the future. This thoughtfulness demonstrates that people are growing as a result of his preaching and helps him want to preach more.

Be careful. Small things like yawning, whispering, or checking your cell phone during church tend to punch holes in a preacher’s fuel tank. He may still drive for forty minutes, but he won’t have the power or acceleration he could have had otherwise. Be careful not to allow yourself to indulge in habits that would distract your preacher or others in the congregation from the message God has laid on his heart. ■

David Speas is pastor of Clinton Wesleyan Church in Clinton, TN. This article was posted on www.powerline.com.

Dear Phil

So then, to what degree does God's sovereignty impinge upon the freedom He has given us? The "space" God gives us for the exercise of our will is limited in many ways. Our freedom did not include choosing our parents, our place of birth, our genetic makeup, our siblings; nor does it include the time of our death, the consequences of our actions, or the nature and extent of our eternal reward (cf. *Psa. 139:15-16; Ezek. 18:20; John 3:18*). God has sovereignly determined these aspects of our life for us.

In each of the decisions we make in life, we often find fewer options than we would have wished. God providentially widens and narrows the limits of our freedom as He chooses. We have no say in the degree of freedom God chooses to give us at any point in time. Sometimes God constrains men to do His will contrary to their own will (*Isa. 37:29*). At other times, God works within the hearts of men to stir them to want to do His will (*Ezra 1:5*). Yet again, God may leave us to see what is in our hearts (*2 Chron. 32:31*).

In the matter of salvation, none would seek God apart from His grace (*Rom. 3:10-18*). Yet, God has sovereignly chosen to enable all men to respond to the grace He gives them (*Rom. 1:20*) and holds them responsible for what they do with that choice (*Rom. 2:11-12*).

Because God is sovereign, nothing can come into the life of a child of God without His permission. Satan and his forces are on a leash, and can go no farther than God chooses (*Job 1:10-12*). What comfort! Praise the Lord!

Sincerely,
Philip

A. Philip Brown II is a member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at God's Bible School and College.

DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY

What does it mean that God is sovereign? —Dan

Dear Dan,

I frequently encounter folks in Wesleyan-Arminian circles who are uncomfortable with the doctrine of God's sovereignty. This is unfortunate, because the sovereignty of God is, I believe, a most soul-comforting truth.

The word sovereign means a ruler or king. Scripture teaches that God is King (*Psa. 97:1*). He is the everlasting King (*Jer. 10:10*), the Most High King (*Dan. 4:17*), the King of the nations (*Rev. 15:3*), the great King over all the earth (*Psa. 47:2*), the Lord of kings (*Dan. 2:47*), the King of kings, and Lord of lords (*1 Tim. 6:15*). He rules over all (*Psa. 103:19*), and of His dominion there shall be no end (*Dan. 4:34*).

As King, God's sovereign power is limitless (*Gen. 18:14; Jer. 32:17*). He commands the weather; clouds, rain, lightning, hail, snow, and wind all obey His will (*Psa. 148:8; Amos 4:7*). Animals obey Him (*Lev. 26:6; Dan. 6:22*). He controls who rules among the nations (*Dan. 4:32*). He sets up and puts down (*Psa. 75:7*). None can stay His hand (*Dan. 4:35; Job 42:2*) or reverse His actions (*Isa. 43:13*). He does whatever He pleases in heaven and on earth (*Psa. 115:3; 135:6*). He plans and brings

it to pass (*Isa. 14:24*). He sustains all things by the word of His power (*Heb. 1:3*). He is accountable to no one, and no created being has the right to question Him or to call Him to account (*Rom. 9:20-21*). He works all things after the counsel of His own will (*Eph. 1:11*).

You may wonder, does *Ephesians 1:11* mean that God determines all things? The answer is "No." For example, in *Jeremiah 19:5* God says, "they have built the high places of Baal, to burn their children in the fire, burnt offerings to Baal, which I commanded not, and I ordered not, and it did not come to my mind." If such horrible, sinful actions did not "come to God's mind," then He certainly did not plan them or decree them (cf. *Jer. 7:31; 32:35*).

Isaiah 10:5-19 also indicates God does not determine all things. God sent Assyria to judge Israel by taking spoil, seizing plunder, and treading them down like the mire of the streets (*Isa. 10:6*). However, Assyria determined "to destroy and to cut off many nations" (*10:7*). In other words, they determined to be harsher than God intended them to be. If God determined all things, then Assyria could not have done something different from what God had determined.



student focus

BOKO HARAM IN NIGERIA

The attacks by the Islamic militant group Boko Haram on Nigerian government facilities and civilians are disturbing. “Boko Haram” translates as “Western education is forbidden,” and the group is vehemently opposed to anything “Western.”

However, the influence of Western education and Christian faith has done much good for Nigeria, especially for women, by breaking down cultural and religious barriers that excluded opportunities for women. Since 2013, Nigeria has produced female leaders at both state and federal levels. Boko Haram fights such progress.

The abduction in April of over two hundred school girls from Chibok in northeastern Nigeria should have been a wake-up call to the global community; but, as time wears on, there is less media attention, and Boko Haram keeps terrorizing. In the case of the kidnapped girls, the extremists threatened to sell them into slavery if the Nigerian government did not release over 100 insurgents from Nigerian prisons.

These insurgent fighters are mainly young, uneducated, unemployed, and committed to extreme Islamic fundamentalism. They advocate a strict form of Sharia Law and fight to convert Nigeria to an Islamic state. Nigerian President

Goodluck Jonathan has claimed that Boko Haram attacks have left at least 12,000 people dead and 8,000 crippled in recent fighting.

Education is a useful tool to more effectively take the Gospel to the people and bring about many improvements in their lives—and there is a real need to address the plight of poverty in Nigeria. The country has no middle class, making the gap between the rich and poor very wide. Families fortunate enough to have someone employed earn an average of \$115 per month. It is very difficult to sustain the average family of six on those wages. The educational institutions keep producing more educated youth who simply join the ranks of the unemployed. The country is a “time bomb,” and many politicians get rich by fanning either religious or ethnic extremism while not actually helping the people.

There is no doubt the country needs a “Joseph” as a leader to better manage its current oil affluence in ways that truly help the country. The Western world should not look aside when basic freedoms and liberty are at stake. What happened to the Chibok school girls in the hands of these terrorists could happen to anyone and any nation.

Please pray for Nigeria. ■

Dr. Nnamdi John Oziri (BA '87) is from Nigeria and serves as a Nazarene missionary to his native country.

“I like to start every day with prayer, and it is during this time that God has encountered me many times.” What a simple—yet profound—statement from **CESAR OLIVER**, a junior studying missions, with a desire to be used of God.

Raised in the small city of Toluca, Mexico, where he played soccer for almost 10 years, he actively pursued the dream of playing professionally. He played on several amateur teams, but God had a different path for Cesar.

God showed him that even when other people don't see evil, God looks at the heart and knows everything. God desired to change his heart to be used for His honor and glory. As part of this preparation, Cesar felt led to Bible college. Here, many things changed: the way he thinks, talks, conducts himself, and—most importantly—his perspective of God. All the while, we still get a glimpse of his boyhood love for soccer by his friends' description of him as “crazy, athletic, funny, and always active.” ■

Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:

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Seven Ways to Hurt Your Pastor

by Thom Rainer

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If you really want to discourage your pastor, then this article is for you!

This past week alone, I had conversations with dozens of pastors. These pastors love their churches and their members. They are really committed to their callings. But they are real people who can really be hurt.

The pastors I spoke with this past week shared with me seven common themes of the things that hurt them the most. So, if you really want to hurt your pastor, follow these guidelines carefully.

1. Criticize the pastor's family. Few things are as painful to pastors as criticizing their families, especially if the criticisms are related to issues in the church.

2. Tell the pastor he is overpaid. Very few pastors really make much money. But there are a number of church members who would like to make the pastor feel bad about his pay.

3. Don't defend the pastor. Critics can be hurtful. But even more hurtful are those who remain silent while their pastor is verbally attacked. Silence is not golden in this case.

4. Tell your pastor what an easy job he has. It can really sting when someone suggests that the pastor really only works about ten hours a week. Some actually believe that pastors have several days a week off.

5. Be a constant naysayer. Pastors can usually handle the occasional critic. But the truly painful relationships are with church members who are constantly negative. How do you know you've succeeded in this regard? The pastor runs the other way when he sees you.

6. Make comments about the pastor's expenditures. I heard it from a pastor this past week. A church member asked, "How can you afford to go to Disney World?" Wow.

7. Compare your pastor's preaching and ministry unfavorably to that of another pastor. Many times the member wants the pastor to know how much he or she prefers the preacher on the podcast to his or her own pastor. If you really want to hurt your pastor, you can make certain he knows how inferior he is.

So, if your life's goal is to hurt your pastor, one or more of these approaches will work just fine. But, if you are like most good church members, you want the best for your pastor. So just do the opposite of these seven suggestions.

And if you are worried that your pastor will not remain humble unless someone puts him in his place, don't worry. There will always be plenty of those other church members around to do that! ■

Thom Rainer is the president and CEO of LifeWay Christian Resources, the author of 24 books, and a speaker. This article originally appeared at www.thomrainer.com.

ADDITIONAL TONGUE-IN-CHEEK SUGGESTIONS

Below are slightly-edited responses to Thom Rainer's online article.

Never give your pastor the benefit of the doubt. Assume that all complaints against him are valid and must be addressed.

Simply say nothing about anything he does. Do not express appreciation for his ministry in any way. Just silently come and go.

ALWAYS accept your friends' invitations to go to their churches for something special (making sure to tell your pastor how great it was), but NEVER invite anyone to come to church with you.

Make certain that "annual meetings" are a free-for-all, when anyone, regardless of knowledge or walk with God, can say anything with no replies being offered.

Avoid Matthew 18 and stir the pot via social media and in parking lot conversations. Always say "people" or "they" are talking, as if it's more than you and one other person.

Never pray with your pastor. When his wife or child has surgery, don't go and don't call to pray.

Let each problem slide until it is a crisis. Then wonder why the pastor felt pressured and attacked and call him immature for it.

(continued on back page) ➔

10 Tweetable Pieces of Advice for Pastors

by Ron Edmondson

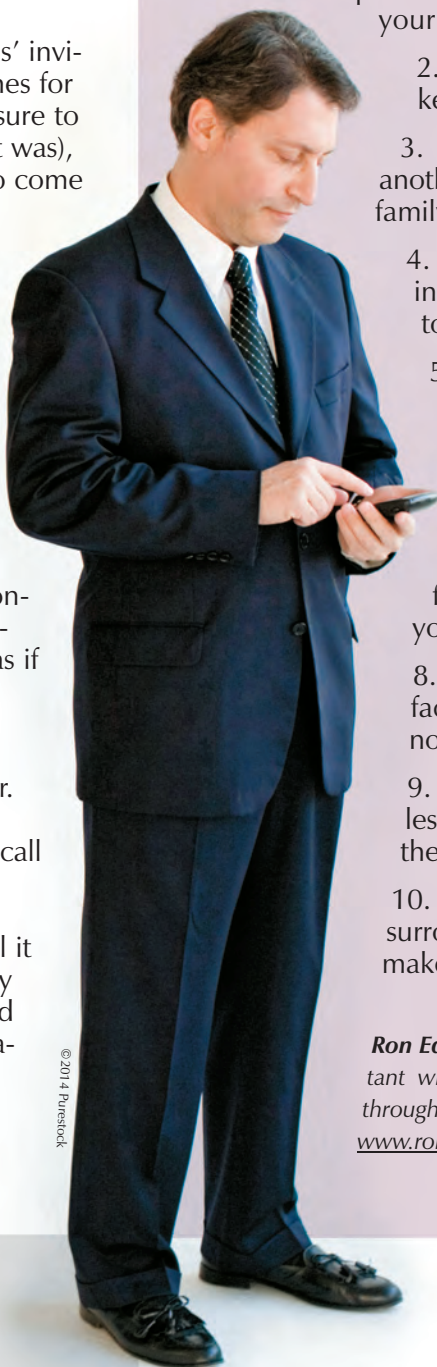
I was in the business world longer than I've been a pastor, so I'm still relatively "new" in the field of vocational ministry. I do have many years of experience with life and leadership. It has been amazing to watch how those principles have transferred for God's glory into the work in the church.

One of my favorite things to do is to invest in other church leaders. I am frequently asked by pastors what my best leadership advice is for them. I don't know how I could contain all I'd share in a single conversation or post. Plus, I'm still learning. I learn something new every day.

Here are 10 tweetable pieces of advice I share with pastors:

1. Don't trade searching for a "word" on Sunday for searching for a personal relationship with God. That's where you'll get your "word."
2. Don't allow a need to protect your reputation to keep you from welcoming accountability. You need it!
3. Never compromise one Biblical principle to keep another, e.g. shepherding the flock versus caring for your family. Your family needs you and so does your church.
4. Don't waste energy on those people who aren't trying to help you build a ministry but are trying instead to tear it down.
5. Allow criticism to shape you but not control you. Every leader doing anything of value attracts critics.
6. Don't get so comfortable that you refuse to walk by faith. God called you to a life of faith-walking.
7. If God is stretching you, it may be uncomfortable for a while, perhaps even painful, but eventually you'll love the new shape.
8. As a leader, you'll seldom make everyone happy. In fact, if that's your goal, you might consider whether or not you're a leader.
9. The more you know and trust the heart of God, the less you'll stress when you don't know or understand the ways of God.
10. I'd rather lead with character than competence. I can surround myself with competent people, but no one can make up for my lack of character. 📌

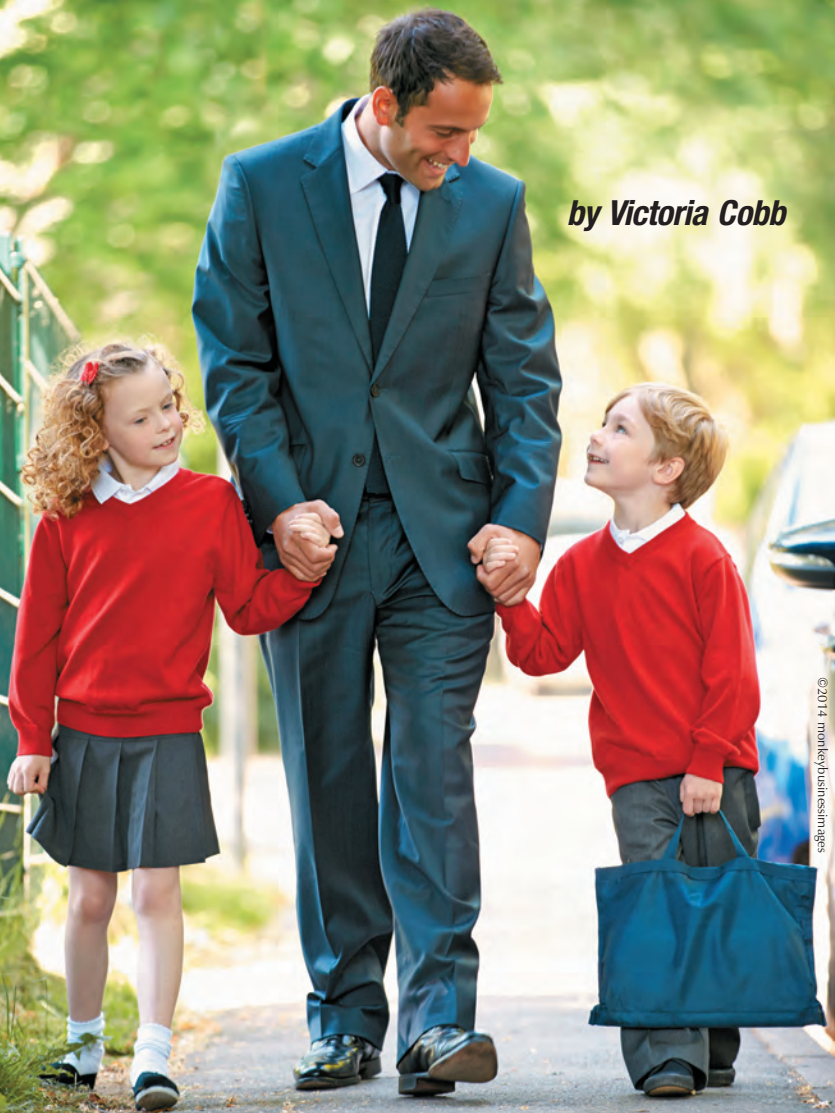
Ron Edmondson is a pastor, church leader, church planter, and consultant who thrives on assisting pastors and those in ministry to think through leadership, strategy, and life. This article was originally posted at www.ronedmondson.com and is used with permission.



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Why I Put My Kids in Christian School

by *Victoria Cobb*



On Tuesday, November 22, 2011, I sat at my kindergartner's Thanksgiving school assembly. Before I knew it, tears rolled down my face as I watched my daughter recite Psalm 136. It wasn't that I was utterly amazed at her ability, especially since we had never practiced it at home; instead it was the joy exuding from her as she recited. She was experiencing the academic pride of mastering a difficult feat while simultaneously beginning to grasp and love God's Word. This was my moment of confirmation that my choice for her education was right.

Where to educate your child is rightly one of the most difficult decisions parents make. I know many people who choose Christian school to avoid the concerning aspects of public school. In the days of Common Core curriculum and co-ed bathroom requirements, Christian school is a refuge.

At least in Christian school, no one tells your child they cannot select Jesus as their hero in their homework assignment. But my husband and I didn't select Christian school just to avoid bad exposure. Instead, my husband and I chose Christian school for the good exposure they would get to things not of this world.

From Monday to Friday, I have 27 waking hours with my school-aged children. Twenty-seven hours to obey Deuteronomy 6:6-9, to talk about God's Word when I sit, lie down, and walk so my children receive it. While that seems like a lot, my children's school gets 33 hours to make an impression. Thirty-three hours to instill things that are harmful, neutral, or, better yet, are consistent with our efforts to teach God's Word at home.

While public schools sometimes have godly teachers and thus my child may be educated without harmful secular influences, we had to be honest about teachers' legal ability to pass on their faith to children in their care. At best, the experience might have been neutral with respect to the impression it left on my children. We chose a school embracing a biblical worldview because we want our children to receive the essential Gospel elements at every possible moment. We want their playground disputes with friends solved using the principles of forgiveness and grace found in God's Word. We want teachers to help my children find who their Creator designed them to be, rather than helping them achieve secular notions of what is best. We want to partner with teachers to train our children to work through difficult situations by examining God's Word.

I also desired a biblical worldview education because of what it meant to me. My parents sacrificed tremendously to put my sister and me in Christian school. At the time, I didn't understand that that choice involved giving up vacations and eating out. The reality is that some families can't afford a non-public education despite making those sacrifices. But as an adult, I can't imagine where I would be if I hadn't received that God-centered education. It was in my 6th grade classroom when I first heard the faintest call on my life to defend unborn life from abortion. It was in that school that my passion for government developed. And it was that school's athletics that exposed me to godly leadership—something I now try to model with my employees. I lead a

pro-life public policy organization that makes a real impact on human life because my school created opportunities for me to hear the Holy Spirit and respond.

Jesus didn't say "Let the little children come unto me" as a comment in that moment. He said it because God created little children to have a tremendous capacity to learn and walk by total faith. My two-year-old, Emma Grace, has such passion in life. Every aspect of the mundane day brings her overwhelming joy. If you heard her laugh, you'd be enamored. However, Emma Grace does have some difficulty articulating words. Though she speaks and sings non-stop, you may not understand everything; But her passion is not lacking! At dinner, my husband asks who will say the blessing. Emma Grace is the first to raise her hand and say, "Me pray." So we all bow our heads and listen intently to capture her words before the emphatic AMEN! When she says her bedtime prayers, I think to myself that her prayers must be the sweetest sound to Jesus' ear. Her innocence, passion, and joy are no match for her speech impediment. When she prays, I am convicted to do everything possible to ensure she keeps praying that way—that Jesus never stops hearing her sweet sound. If a biblical worldview education can partner with me in that mission, no amount of sacrifice is too much. I follow that prayer with the prayer that I might always be able to afford this partnership. ■

Victoria Cobb is president of The Family Foundation of Virginia, the Commonwealth's largest and oldest pro-family organization. This article originally appeared in The RENEWANATION Review, Volume 6, Issue 1.



Religious Freedom

by Clay Christensen

Some time ago I had a conversation with a Marxist economist from China. He was coming to the end of a Fullbright Fellowship here in Boston, and I asked him if he had learned anything that was surprising or unexpected. And without any hesitation, he said, "Yeah. I had no idea how critical religion is to the functioning of democracy. The reason why democracy works," he said, "is not because the government was designed to oversee what everybody does. But, rather, democracy works because most people most of the time voluntarily choose to obey the law. And, in your past, most Americans attended a church or synagogue every week. And they were taught there by people whom they respected."

My friend went on to say that Americans follow these rules because they had come to believe that they weren't just accountable to society, they were accountable to God.

My Chinese friend heightened a vague but nagging concern I've harbored inside that as religion loses its influence over the lives of Americans, what will happen to our democracy? Where are the institutions that are going to teach the next generation of Americans that they too need to voluntarily choose to obey the laws? Because, if you take away religion, you can't hire enough police. ■

Dr. Clay Christensen, an author and a professor at the Harvard Business School, is considered to be the top management thinker in the world today. Retrieved from www.renewanation.org.

RENEWANATION is a non-profit organization with the vision of seeing culture transformed by giving millions of children a Christian worldview education. The battle of worldviews is taking place in K-12 classrooms across America. Renewanation serves to promote and expand the cause of Christian worldview education by supporting Christian schools, homeschools, and ministries reaching non-Christian school students.

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OCTOBER 2014



A Good Man Has Gone Home

by Jack Hooker, President,
GBS National Alumni Association

Kenneth Stetler was “a good man.” Such was the theme of the eulogy of his son Steve Stetler at the funeral of Dr. Kenneth Stetler on August 23, 2014. This sentiment could be echoed by countless former students and friends whose lives were impacted by this good and godly man.

Kenneth Stetler was born on April 27, 1929, into a farmer’s home in northwestern Indiana. At the age

of 16, he was wonderfully converted and shortly thereafter called to preach. In January 1949, “Kenny” traveled to the “big city” and enrolled in God’s Bible School, not knowing that the Hilltop would be his home for the next forty years. He earned Bachelor of Theology and Bachelor of Arts degrees from GBS, then went on to receive a Master of Education degree from the University of Cincinnati. On May 30, 1997, he received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from GBS.

While at GBS, Kenneth met the love of his life, Jewel Lamb. They were married in 1950 and were to enjoy this blessed union until Kenneth’s death.

In 1957, Lola Cowdrey, a GBS faculty member, recognized Kenneth’s ability for teaching, and, upon her recommendation, Kenneth joined the faculty in 1958 and served his alma mater in that capacity for nearly four decades. Over those nearly 40 years, Dr. Stetler taught fifty-four different subjects, including Bible, Theology, and Literature, to countless students.

GBS was not his only area of ministry. Kenneth pastored, served



Ken Stetler and the GBS Victory Four Quartet

as evangelist and Bible teacher in churches and camp meetings, and was an elder in the Heartland Conference of the Bible Methodist Connection of Churches for over 24 years, holding several offices. But for many of us, Kenneth’s crowning achievement was the mark he left on the students he taught at GBS.

As I looked over the large crowd that had gathered to honor him at his funeral, I was struck with the thought that the vast majority of attendees were GBS alumni. In fact, few were there that I did not know personally. We came to honor this “good man” because of the influence he had on each of our lives. No wonder the psalmist said, “A good man deals graciously and lends.” Dr.

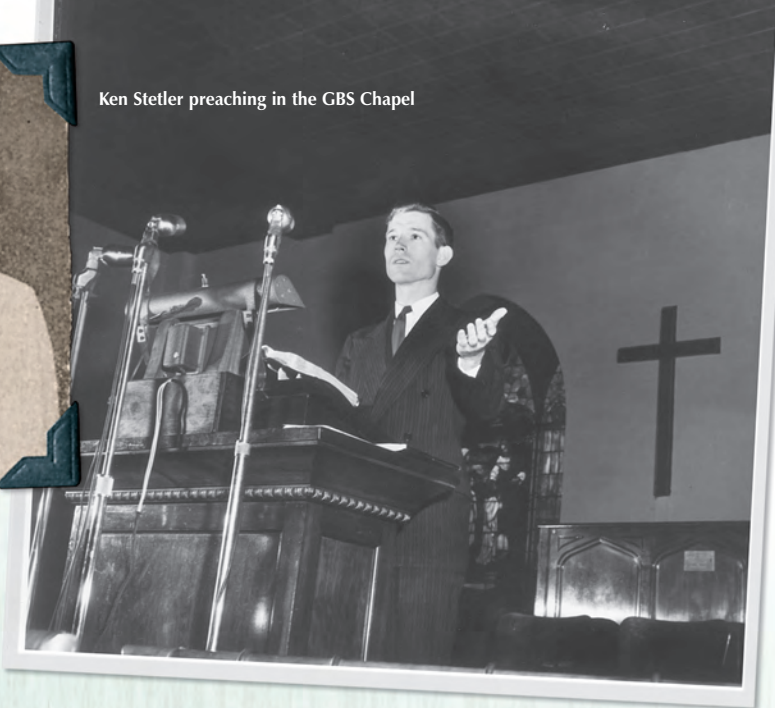


left: Kenneth and Jewel (Lamb) Stetler

below: Kenneth and Jewel surrounded by their children. Clockwise from left they are Frances, Darrell, Daniel, Trilinda, David, and Steve.



Ken Stetler preaching in the GBS Chapel



Avery said it like this, “His students remember his quiet, gentle spirit, and the consistency and dependability of his character; for he lived out what he taught each day in an unassuming, humble, and godly way.”

Personally, I remember my struggle to know God’s direction in my life during my senior year at GBS. I thought, “Where could I go for counsel and advice?” My meeting with Dr. Stetler proved to be pivotal. Dr. Stetler once said in a *God’s Revivalist* interview, “I have felt richly rewarded by seeing my students become successful pastors, teachers, and missionaries.”

The other outstanding trait of Dr. Kenneth Stetler was his love for, devotion to, and influence on his family. Once he was asked, “What do you view as your greatest accomplishments at GBS?” Dr. Stetler answered, “I am grateful that my children are serving the Lord, and I also am deeply pleased by the reports of the labors and success of former students whose lives I have touched.” It was fitting that five of his six children spoke at the funeral—all of whom are GBS alumni and in active ministry. The youngest daughter, Trilinda, has taken on the special ministry of caring for her parents during the last several years. A number of Kenneth’s grandchildren are also serving God’s kingdom in various areas of ministry. The psalmist was right when he stated, “A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children.”

On behalf of GBS alumni and the larger GBS family, thank you Bro. Stetler, for a job well done. May God bless the legacy you left in the lives of so many students and your family. May God help us to follow in your footsteps. You proved what the psalmist wrote centuries ago, “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delights in his way.” ■

(See obituary on page 12)



THOUGHTS

for the quiet hour

by Sonja Vernon

BRONZE SERPENTS

“He removed the high places and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherah. He also broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the sons of Israel burned incense to it; and it was called Nehushtan.”
—2 Kings 18:4 NASB

Remember the fiery serpents (Num. 21)? It was one of those Sunday school stories that held us captive with its horror. The thought of those creatures everywhere—striking, killing—was darkly fascinating. But then we sighed with relief as the bronze serpent was lifted high on a pole, and all who gazed upon it were healed. The bronze serpent was a beautiful symbol and a powerful reminder that God will not tolerate sin but that He also offers us His mercy. Why then was this icon destroyed in Hezekiah’s sweeping reforms? Unfortunately, something happened to the bronze serpent that I’m afraid can happen to many of the “symbols of God’s grace” in our lives. The people began to focus on the thing God had used instead of the God who had used it. They began to view it as an object of worship, and it had to be annihilated.

Can we be extremely honest for a moment? Are there things in our lives that have become “bronze serpents?” Have methods, relationships, ideas, or anything else that God has utilized in our lives or our churches become our main focus instead of the God who used them? Have we set up shrines to the instruments of grace instead of the Grace Giver? Perhaps it is time to take serious inventory and make sure that nothing, not even God’s good gifts, have taken His rightful place. ■

Sonja Vernon is Dean of Women at God’s Bible School and College.

OCTOBER 2014

TONGUE-IN-CHEEK

➡ (continued from page 19)

Expect your pastor to understand and work on his blind spots on his own.

If you have to miss church, make sure you don't let the pastor know, especially if you teach a Sunday school class, run the sound, or work in the nursery, etc. That will teach "them" how important and valuable you are!

Do not expect a new pastor to seek his own vision for the church. Gently let him know boundaries and limitations by saying, "We've never done it that way," or, "We've always done it this way."

Constantly compare the current pastor to previous pastors. This helps him know how he is doing and in what areas he needs to improve.

Make sure to pull the pastor to the side right before service and unleash a complaint or gripe.... That will surely help him focus on the message God has placed in his heart for that day.

The younger the persons in ministry, the more scrutiny and supervision they need. These young ministers aren't war-hardened, and it is up to us to make sure they become so—and quickly!

After every service, tell the pastor how long his sermon was. Like, *exactly* how long. Pastors appreciate someone keeping track of this for them.

Assume, since you weren't able to go to church this past Sunday, that your tithe isn't needed, nor do you owe it.

Don't bother the pastor with extraneous information, e.g. your cousin died or your uncle was in the hospital. Pastors already know these things.

The #1 way to hurt your pastor is to fail to pray for God's will in his life and for spiritual protection for him and his family. ■

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